

Lolium temulentum)

(*Lactuca serriola*

/ *Sonchus oleraceus*

Effect of Three Weed Species on Barley Growth and Productivity Under Al-Qassim Conditions

This study has been conducted at the experimental station of the College of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine, King Saud University, Al-Qassim branch, during the growing seasons 1998-2000. It intends to examine the effect of three common serious weed species (Rye-grasses, Sow thistle and Prickly-lettuce) on some characteristics of barley (CV.Gusto) affecting its productivity and to evaluate the importance of their control under Al-Qassim conditions of the central region of Saudi Arabia. The results indicated that there was a significant negative effect for the three weeds on some

characteristics of barley, affecting its productivity. There were highly significant differences between the control treatment 1 and the other investigated treatments. However, there was no significant difference between treatment 2, treatment 3 and treatment 4, where the rye-grasses had a great negative effect compared to sow thistle and prickly-lettuce in that order. However, these weeds had generally different effects on barley characteristics, thus affecting its productivity. Controlling the three weeds showed a highly significant increase in the productivity of barley. The productivity of barley (kg/m²) amounted to 10,397 for control treatment; 0,469 for barley with prickly-lettuce; 0,393 for barley with sow thistle treatment; 0,349 for barley with rye-grasses. This confirms that there is a significant negative effect for the three studied weeds on barley productivity under Al-Qassim area conditions. In addition, the study has shown that such weeds have a generally different negative effects on the other barley characteristics investigated (plant height, total dry weight, number of spikes/m², spike length, weight of 1000 grains and number of grains/spike). This confirms the effect of weeds on barley productivity and the necessity to find a suitable programme for controlling it.

Key words: Barley, Weeds, *Lolium temulentum*, *Sonchus oleraceus*, *Lactuca serriola*.

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. (Stephens 198)

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.(Turk & Tawaha 2003)

(Schroeder 1983)

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(Hordeum vulgare cultivar *Gusto)*

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(Abdel Magid *et al.* 1991)

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(Migahid 1988, 1989 &1990)

(Chaudhary 1999)

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***Lolium temulentum* L.**

(Gramineae)

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(Tawaha *et al.* 2001)

(Harper 1982)

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(*Avena spp.* *Lolium spp.*)

(D'souza *et al.* 1993; Read & Hewson 1990).

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